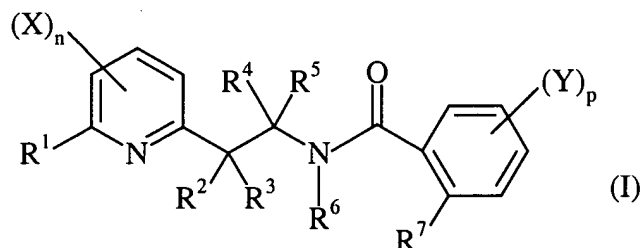


LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Original)

1. (Original) A compound of general formula (I):



in which :

- n is 1, 2 or 3;
- X is the same or different and is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro- λ^6 -sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl group, a C₁-C₈-alkyl, a C₂-C₈-alkenyl, a C₂-C₈-alkynyl, a C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a C₁-C₈-alkoxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₈-alkenyloxy, a C₂-C₈-halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₈-alkynyloxy, a C₃-C₈-halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₈-cycloalkyl, a C₃-C₈-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbamoyl, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylcarbamoyl, a (N-C₁-C₈-alkyl)oxycarbamoyl, a C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbamoyl, a (N-C₁-C₈-alkyl)-C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbamoyl, a C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonylamino, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphenyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphinyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a (C₁-C₆-alkoxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl,

a (C₁-C₆-alkenyloxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a (C₁-C₆-alkynyloxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a (benzyloxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl or a phenylamino;

- R¹ is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ⁶-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl group, a C₁-C₈-alkyl, a C₂-C₈-alkenyl, a C₂-C₈-alkynyl, a C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a C₁-C₈-alkoxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₈-alkenyloxy, a C₂-C₈-halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₈-alkynyloxy, a C₃-C₈-halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₈-cycloalkyl, a C₃-C₈-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbamoyl, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylcarbamoyl, a N-C₁-C₈-alkyloxycarbamoyl, a C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbamoyl, a N-C₁-C₈-alkyl-C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbamoyl, a C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonylamino, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphenyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphinyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a (C₁-C₆-alkoxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a (C₁-C₆-alkenyloxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a (C₁-C₆-alkynyloxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a (benzyloxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a phenylamino;

with the proviso that X and R¹ are not both a hydrogen atom;

- R² and R³ are the same or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₆-alkenyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulphenyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfinyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyloxy or a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonylamino;

or R² and R³ may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;

- R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a C_1 - C_6 -alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 -halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

or R^4 and R^5 may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;

- R^6 is a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a formyl group, a hydroxy group, a C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 -halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_6 -alkoxy, a C_1 - C_6 -halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_3 - C_6 -cycloalkyl, a C_3 - C_6 -halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2 - C_6 -alkenyl, a C_2 - C_6 -alkynyl, a C_1 - C_6 -alkoxy- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 -cyanoalkyl, a C_1 - C_6 -aminoalkyl, a C_1 - C_6 -alkylamino- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, a di- C_1 - C_6 -alkylamino- C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 -alkylcarbonyl, a C_1 - C_6 -halogenalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_6 -alkyloxycarbonyl, a C_1 - C_6 -benzyloxycarbonyl, a C_1 - C_6 -alkoxy- C_1 - C_6 -alkylcarbonyl, a C_1 - C_6 -alkylsulfonyl or a C_1 - C_6 -halogenoalkylsulfonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

- p is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

- Y is the same or different and is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro- λ^6 -sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2 - C_8 -alkenyl, a C_2 - C_8 -alkynyl, a C_1 - C_8 -alkylamino, a di- C_1 - C_8 -alkylamino, a C_1 - C_8 -alkoxy, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_8 -alkoxy- C_2 - C_8 -alkenyl, a C_1 - C_8 -alkylsulfonyl, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkylsulfonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_8 -alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_8 -alkylcarbonyloxy, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_8 -alkylsulphenyl, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_8 -alkylsulphinyl, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_8 -alkylsulphonyl, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a C_1 - C_8 -alkylsulfonamide; and

- R^7 is a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro- λ^6 -sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2 - C_8 -alkenyl, a C_2 - C_8 -alkynyl, a C_1 - C_8 -alkylamino, a di- C_1 - C_8 -alkylamino, a C_1 - C_8 -alkoxy, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_8 -alkoxy- C_2 - C_8 -alkenyl, a C_1 - C_8 -alkylsulfonyl, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkylsulfonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_8 -alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_8 -alkylcarbonyloxy, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_8 -alkylsulphenyl, a C_1 - C_8 -halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1 - C_8 -alkylsulphinyl, a C_1 - C_8 -

halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a C₁-C₈-alkylsulfonamide;

as well as its salts, N-oxydes, metallic and metalloidic complexes.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, characterised in that R¹ is a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom.

3. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterised in that n is 1 or 2.

4. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterised in that X is a halogen atom or a C₁-C₈-alkyl.

5. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterised in that the 2-pyridyl is substituted by X in 3- and/or in 5-position.

6. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterised in that R⁷ is a halogen atom, a C₁-C₈-alkyl or a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms.

7. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterised in that p is 1 or 2.

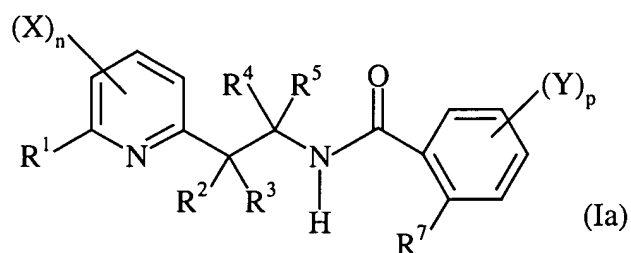
8. (Original) A compound according to claim 7, characterised in that p is 1.

9. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterised in that Y is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a C₁-C₈-alkyl.

10. (Original) A compound according to claim 9, characterised in that Y is a hydrogen atom.

11. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, characterised in that the phenyl is substituted by Y preferentially first in para position.

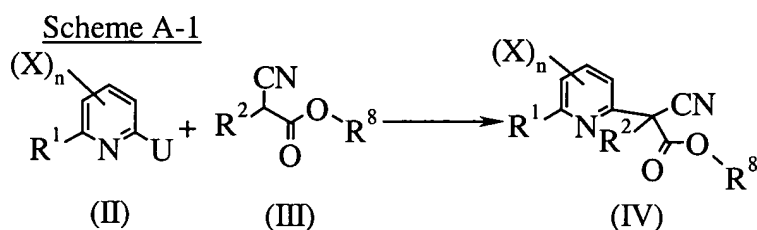
12. (Currently amended) A process (A) for the preparation of compound of general formula (Ia)



wherein : - R^1, R^2, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1 ~~claim 1~~;
 - R^3 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

which comprises

- a first step according to reaction scheme A-1 :

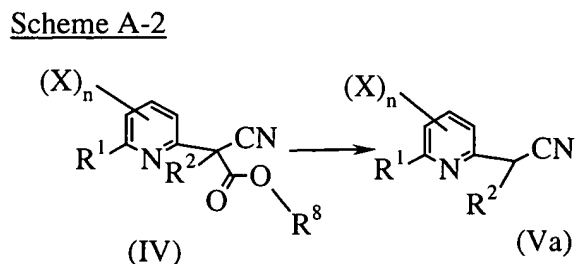


in which : - ~~R^1, R^2, X and n are as defined in claim 1~~ ~~claim 1~~;
 - R^8 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

- U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen, a C_1 - C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;

comprising the arylation of a cyanoacetate derivative of general formula (III) by a pyridine derivative of general formula (II), to provide a 2-(pyridyl)cyanoacetate derivative of general formula (IV), in the presence of a base, at a temperature of from 0°C to 200°C ;

- a second step according to reaction scheme A-2 :



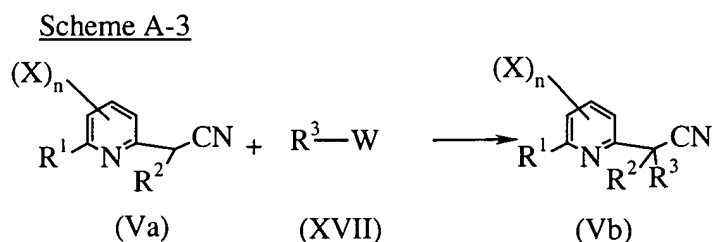
in which : ~~R^1, R^2, X, n are as defined in claim 1~~

- R^3 is a hydrogen atom;

- R^8 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

comprising a basic hydrolysis, an acidic hydrolysis or a displacement by an halide of a compound of general formula (IV) in the same or a different pot to provide, upon heating at a temperature of from 40°C to reflux, a 2-pyridylacetonitrile derivative of general formula (Va);

- a third step according to reaction scheme A-3 :



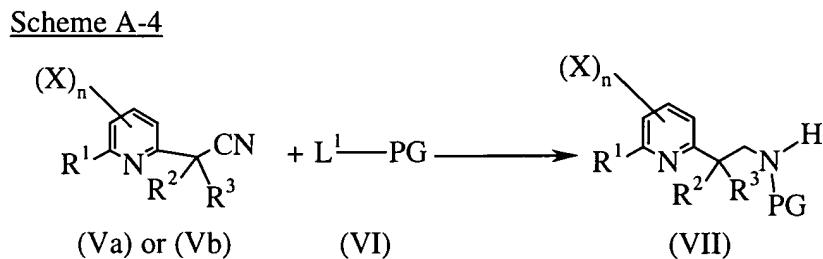
in which : ~~R^1, R^2, X, n are as defined in claim 1~~

- R^3 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

- W is a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkylsulfonate, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkylsulfonate or a 4-methyl-phenylsulfonate,

comprising the alkylation of a compound of general formula (Va) by a reagent of general formula (XVII) to provide a compound of general formula (Vb);

- a fourth step according to reaction scheme A-4 :



in which : ~~R^1, R^2, X, n are as defined in claim 1~~

- R^3 is a hydrogen atom or a C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

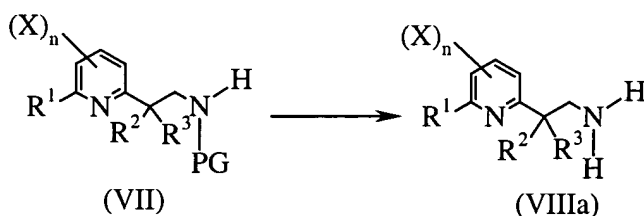
- L^1 is a leaving group chosen as being a $-\text{OR}^8$ group or a $-\text{OCOR}^8$ group, R^8 being a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

- PG represents a protecting group which may be a $-\text{COOR}^8$ group or $-\text{COR}^8$ group, R^8 being a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

comprising the reduction, by hydrogenation or by an hydride donor, of a compound of general formula (Va) or (Vb), in the presence of a catalyst and in the presence of a compound of general formula (VI) to produce a compound of general formula (VII), at a temperature of from 0°C to 150°C and under a pressure of from 1 bar and 100 bar;

- a fifth step according to reaction scheme A-5 :

Scheme A-5



in which : ~~$\text{R}^1, \text{R}^2, \text{X}, n$ are as defined in claim 1~~

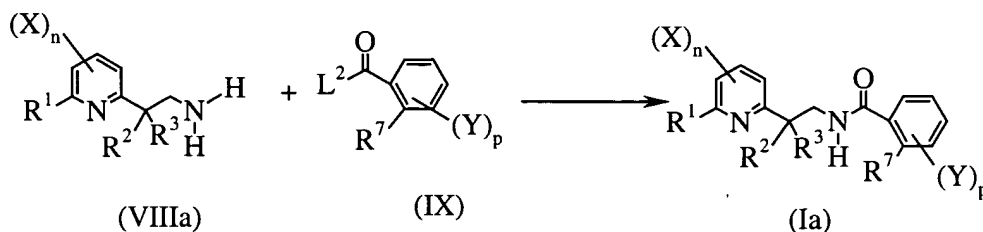
- R^3 is a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl;

- PG represents a protecting group which may be a $-\text{COOR}^8$ group or $-\text{COR}^8$ group, R^8 being a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

comprising a deprotection reaction, in an acidic or in a basic medium, of a compound of general formula (VII) to provide an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIa) or one of its salt;

- a sixth step according to reaction scheme A-6 :

Scheme A-6

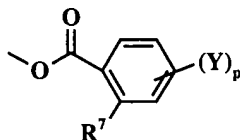


in which : ~~$\text{R}^1, \text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{X}, \text{Y}, n$ and p are as defined in claim 1~~

- R^3 is a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl;

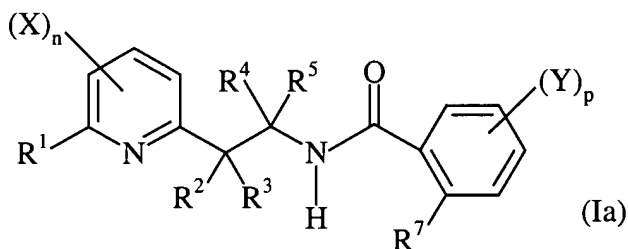
- L^2 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, an OR^8 group, an OCOR^8 , R^8 being a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl,

a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; or a group of formula



comprising a coupling reaction of an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIa) or one of its salt, with a carboxylic acid derivative of formula (IX) to provide a compound of general formula (Ia).

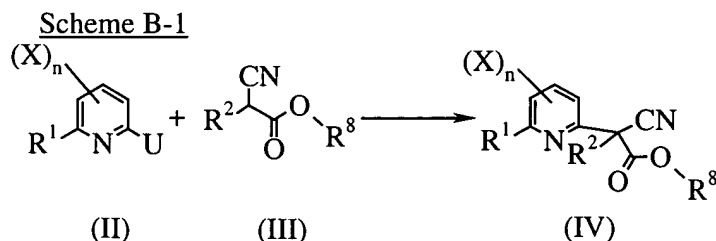
13. (Currently amended) A process (B) for the preparation of compound of general formula (Ia)



wherein : - R^1, R^2, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1 ~~claim 1~~;
 - R^3 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

which comprises

- a first step according to reaction scheme B-1 :

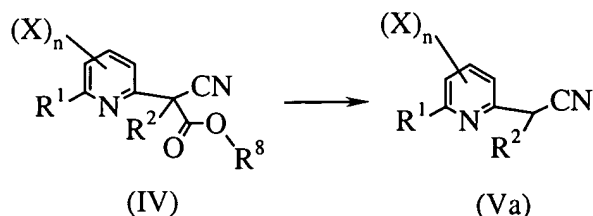


in which : - ~~R^1, R^2, X and n are as defined in claim 1~~;
 - R^8 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;
 - U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;

comprising the arylation of a cyanoacetate derivative of general formula (III) by a pyridine derivative of general formula (II) to provide a 2-pyridylcyanoacetate derivative of general formula (IV);

- a second step according to reaction scheme B-2 :

Scheme B-2



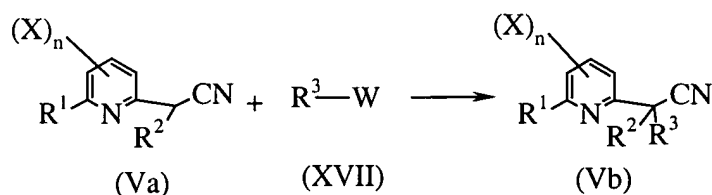
in which : ~~-R¹, R², X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R⁸ is a C₁-C₆ alkyl, a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

comprising a basic hydrolysis, an acidic hydrolysis or a displacement by an halide of a compound of general formula (IV) in the same or a different pot to provide, upon heating at a temperature of from 40°C to reflux, a 2-pyridylacetonitrile derivative of general formula (Va);

- a third step according to reaction scheme B-3 :

Scheme B-3



in which : ~~-R¹, R², X, n are as defined in claim 1;~~

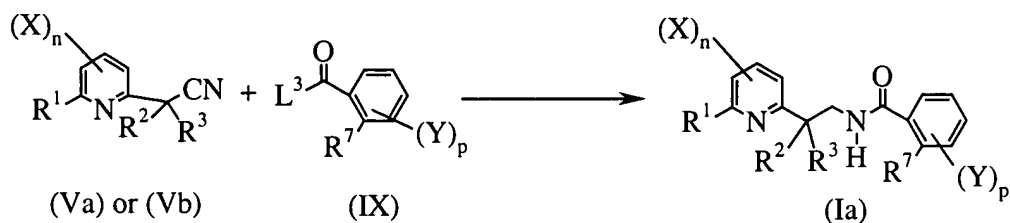
- R³ is a C₁-C₆ alkyl;

- W is a halogen atom, a C₁-C₆ alkylsulfonate, a C₁-C₆ haloalkylsulfonate or a 4-methyl-phenylsulfonate,

comprising the alkylation of a compound of general formula (Va) by a reagent of general formula (XVII) to provide a compound of general formula (Vb);

- a fourth step according to reaction scheme B-4 :

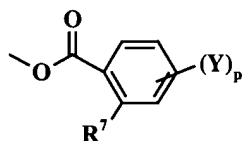
Scheme B-4



in which : ~~-R¹, R², R⁷, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R³ is a C₁-C₆ alkyl;

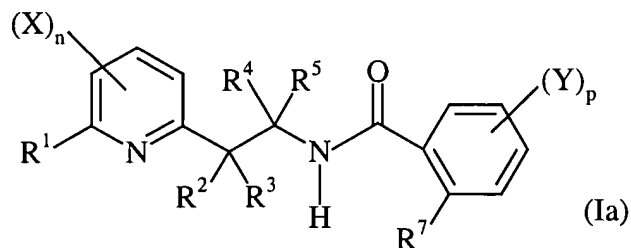
- L³ is a leaving group chosen as being -OCOR⁸, R⁸ being a C₁-C₆ alkyl, a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; -OCHO, -SCSN(Me)₂ or a group of formula



;

comprising the reduction by hydrogenation or by an hydride of a compound of general formula (Va) or a compound of general formula (Vb) in the presence of a catalyst and in the presence of a compound of general formula (IX) to produce a compound of general formula (Ia), at a temperature of from 0°C to 150°C and under a pressure of from 1 bar and 100 bar.

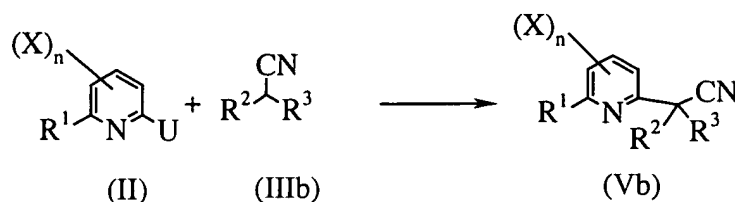
14. (Currently amended) A process (C) for the preparation of compound of general formula (Ia)



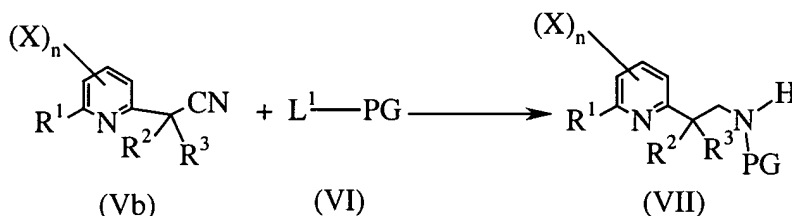
wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁷, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;

which comprises

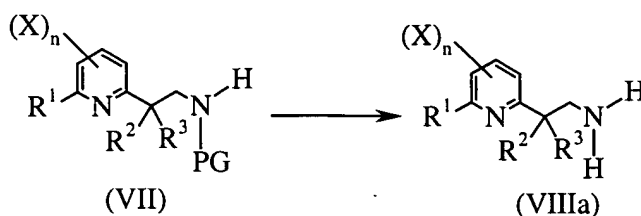
- a first step according to reaction scheme C-1 :

Scheme C-1

in which : ~~$-R^1, R^2, R^3, X$ and n are as defined in claim 1;~~
 - U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;
 comprising the arylation of a compound of general formula (IIIb) by a pyridine derivative of general formula (II) to provide a 2-pyridylacetonitrile derivative of general formula (Vb), in the presence of a base and at a temperature of from -100°C to 200°C ;
 - a second step according to reaction scheme C-2 :

Scheme C-2

in which : ~~$-R^1, R^2, R^3, X$ and n are as defined in claim 1;~~
 - L^1 is a leaving group chosen as being a $-OR^8$ group or a $-OCOR^8$ group, R^8 being a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;
 - PG represents a protecting group which may be a $-COOR^8$ group or $-COR^8$ group, R^8 being a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;
 comprising the reduction, by hydrogenation or by an hydride donor, of a compound of general formula (Va) or (Vb), in the presence of a compound of general formula (VI) to produce a compound of general formula (VII) ;
 - a third step according to reaction scheme C-3 :

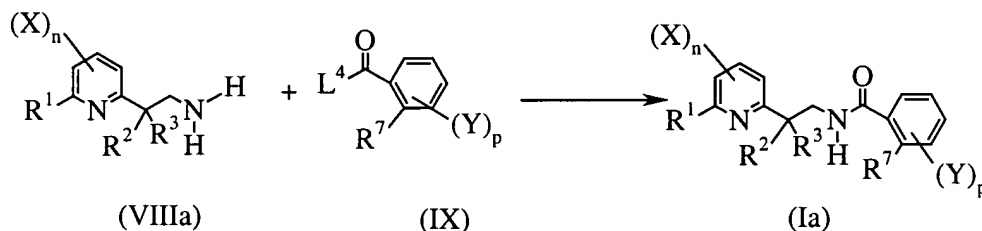
Scheme C-3

in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- PG represents a protecting group which may be a $-\text{COOR}^8$ group or $-\text{COR}^8$ group, R^8 being a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

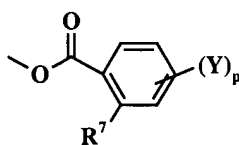
comprising a deprotection reaction, in an acidic or in a basic medium, of a compound of general formula (VII) to provide an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIa) or one of its salt;

- a fourth step according to reaction scheme C-4 :

Scheme C-4

in which : ~~$R^1, R^2, R^3, R^7, X, Y, n$ and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

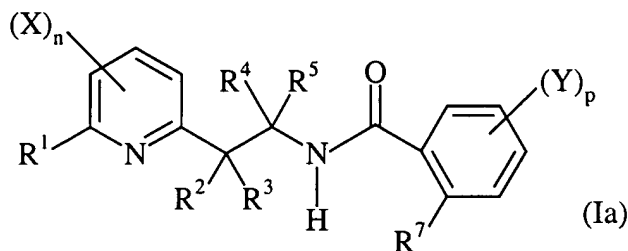
- L^4 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, $-\text{OCHO}$, $-\text{SCSN}(\text{Me})_2$, an OR^8 group, an OCOR^8 , R^8 being a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; or a group of formula



;

comprising a coupling reaction of an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIa) or one of its salt, with a carboxylic acid derivative of formula (IX) to provide a compound of general formula (Ia).

15. (Currently amended) A process (D) for the preparation of compound of general formula (Ia)

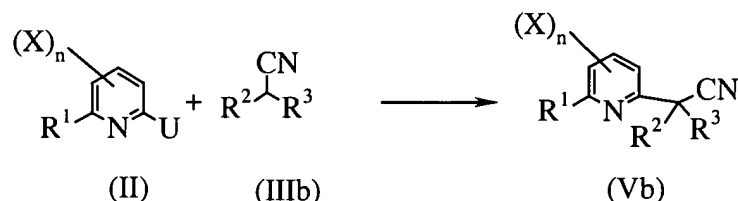


wherein :
 - R^1, R^2, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;
 - R^3 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

which comprises

- a first step according to reaction scheme D-1 :

Scheme D-1

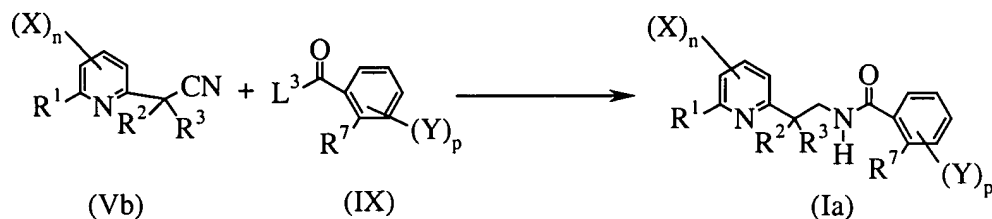


in which :
~~- R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~
- R^3 is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C_1 - C_6 -alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 -halogenalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2 - C_6 - alkenyl, a C_1 - C_6 -alkoxy, a C_1 - C_6 -alkylsulfanyl, a C_1 - C_6 -alkylsulfenyl, a C_1 - C_6 -alkylsulfinyl, a C_1 - C_6 -alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1 - C_6 -alkylcarbonyloxy or a C_1 - C_6 -alkylcarbonylamino;
- or R^2 and R^3 may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;

- U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;

comprising the arylation of a compound of general formula (IIIb) by a pyridine derivative of general formula (II) to provide a 2-pyridylacetonitrile derivative of general formula (Vb), in the presence of a base and at a temperature of from -100°C to 200°C ;

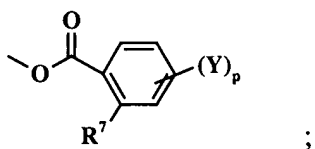
- a second step according to reaction scheme D-2 :

Scheme D-2

in which : ~~$-R^1, R^2, R^3, X, Y, n$ and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

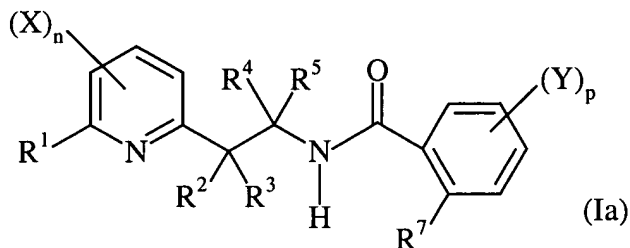
- R^3 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

- L^3 is a leaving group chosen as being $-OCOR^8$, R^8 being a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; $-OCHO$, $-SCSN(Me)_2$ or a group of formula



comprising the reduction by hydrogenation or by an hydride donor a compound of general formula (Va) or a compound of general formula (Vb) in the presence of a compound of general formula (IX) to provide a compound of general formula (Ia).

16. (Currently amended) A process (E) for the preparation of compound of general formula (Ia)

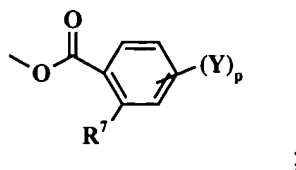


wherein : - $R^1, R^2, R^3, R^7, X, Y, n$ and p are as defined in claim 1;

- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl;

- R^5 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl; - L^4 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, $-OCHO$, $-SCSN(Me)_2$, an OR^8 group,

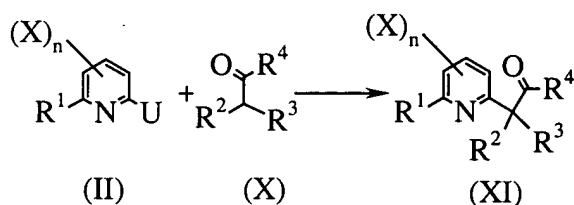
an OCOR^8 , R^8 being a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; or a group of formula



which comprises

- a first step according to reaction scheme E-1 :

Scheme E-1



in which : ~~$\text{R}^1, \text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{X}$ and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

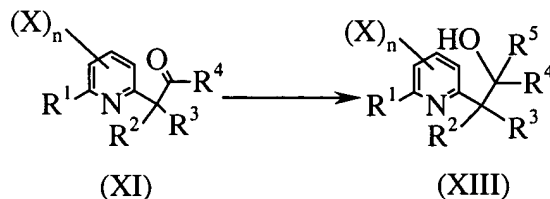
- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl;

- U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkylsulfonate or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkylsulfonate;

comprising the arylation of a compound of general formula (X) by a pyridine derivative of general formula (II) to provide a compound of general formula (XI);

- a second step according to reaction scheme E-2 :

Scheme E-2

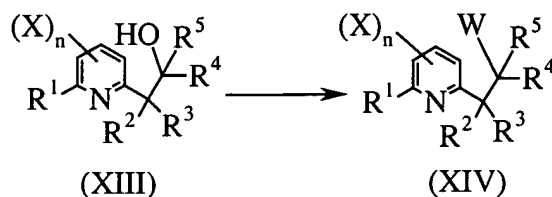


in which : ~~$\text{R}^1, \text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{X}$ and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

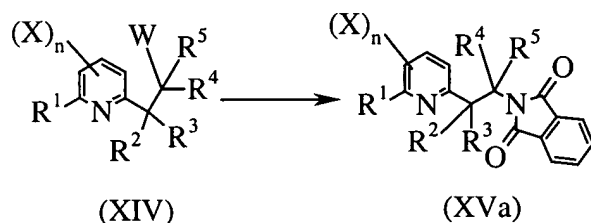
- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl;

comprising the conversion of a compound of general formula (XI) into a compound of general formula (XIII) by addition of a compound of general formula $\text{R}^5\text{-M}$, in which R^5 is a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ alkyl or a $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$ haloalkyl and M is a metal specie;

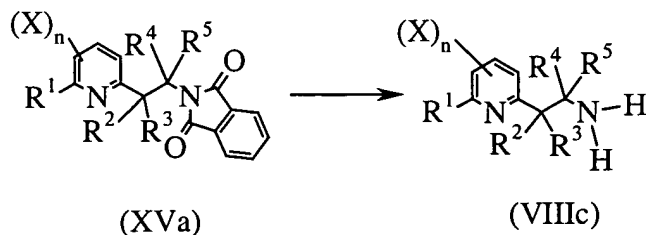
- a third step according to reaction scheme E-3 :

Scheme E-3

- in which :
- ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~
 - R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl;
 - R^5 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl;
 - W is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkylsulfonate, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkylsulfonate or a 4-methyl-phenylsulfonate;
- comprising the activation of a compound of general formula (XIII) by converting it into a compound of general formula (XIV);
- a fourth step according to reaction scheme E-4 :

Scheme E-4

- in which :
- ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~
 - R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl;
 - R^5 is a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl;
 - W is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkylsulfonate, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkylsulfonate or a 4-methyl-phenylsulfonate;
- comprising the substitution of a compound of general formula (XIV) by a phthalimide derivative or one of its salt to provide a compound of general formula (XVa);
- a fifth step according to reaction scheme E-5 :

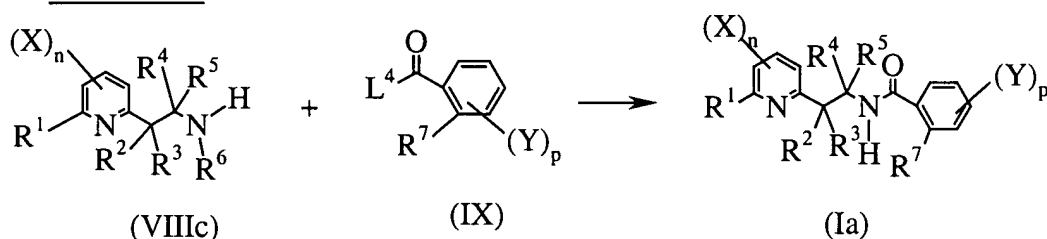
Scheme E-5

- in which : ~~-R¹, R², R³, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~
 - R⁴ is a hydrogen atom, a C₁-C₆ alkyl or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl;
 - R⁵ is a C₁-C₆ alkyl or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl;

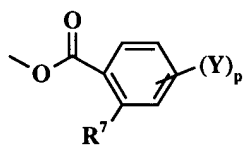
comprising the de-protection of a compound of general formula (XVa) by reacting it with hydrazine hydrate or a hydrazine salt to provide an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIc) or one of its salt;

- a sixth step according to reaction scheme E-6 :

Scheme E-6

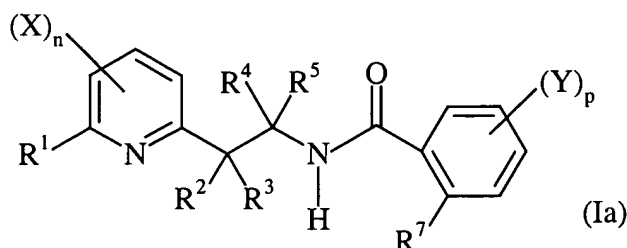


- in which : ~~-R¹, R², R³, R⁷, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;~~
 - R⁴ is a hydrogen atom, a C₁-C₆ alkyl or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl;
 - R⁵ is a C₁-C₆ alkyl or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl; - L⁴ is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, -OCHO, -SCSN(Me)₂, an OR⁸ group, an OCOR⁸, R⁸ being a C₁-C₆ alkyl, a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; or a group of formula

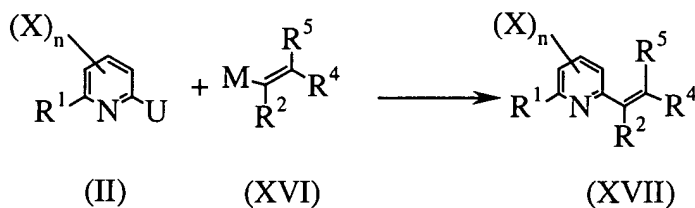


comprising a coupling reaction of an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIb) or one of its salt, with a carboxylic acid derivative of formula (IX) to provide a compound of general formula (Ia).

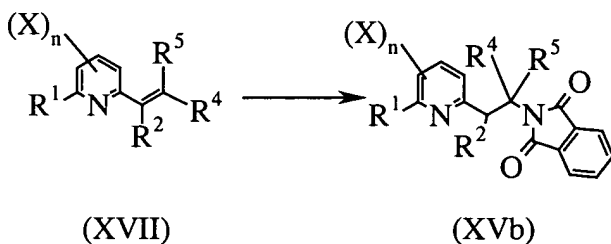
17. (Currently amended) A process (F) for the preparation of compound of general formula (Ia)



wherein :
 - R^1 , R^7 , X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;
 - R^2 , R^4 and R^5 are independently from each other chosen as being a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl;
 which comprises
 - a first step according to reaction scheme F-1 :

Scheme F-1

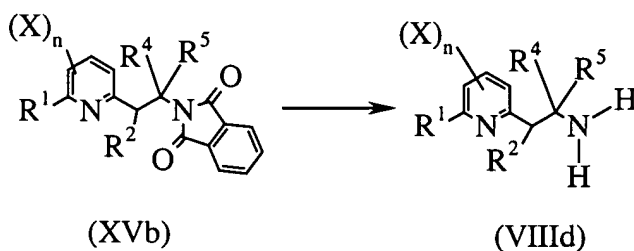
in which :
~~- R^1 , X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~
 - U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom a C_1 - C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;
 - R^2 , R^4 and R^5 are independently from each other chosen as being a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl;
 - M is a metal or a metalloid specie;
 comprising a coupling reaction of a pyridine derivative of general formula (II) with a vinylic specie of general formula (XVI), at a temperature of from 0°C to 200°C, to provide a compound of general formula (XVII);
 - a second step according to reaction scheme F-2 :

Scheme F-2

in which :
~~- R^1 , X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~
 - R^2 , R^4 and R^5 are independently from each other chosen as being a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl;
 comprising the addition of a phthalimide or one of its salt on a compound of general formula (XVII) to provide a compound of general formula (XVb);

- a third step according to reaction scheme F-3 :

Scheme F-3

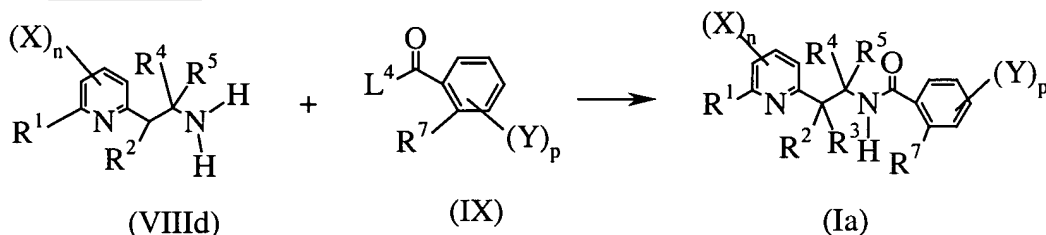


in which : ~~-R¹, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R², R⁴ and R⁵ are independently from each other chosen as being a hydrogen atom, a C₁-C₆ alkyl or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl;
comprising the de-protection of a compound of general formula (XVb) with hydrazine hydrate or an hydrazine salt, to provide an amine derivative of general formula (VIIId) or one of its salts;

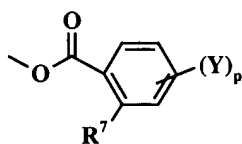
- a fourth step according to reaction scheme F-4 :

Scheme F-4



in which : ~~-R¹, R², X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R², R⁴ and R⁵ are independently from each other chosen as being a hydrogen atom, a C₁-C₆ alkyl or a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl;
- L⁴ is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, -OCHO, -SCSN(Me)₂, an OR⁸ group, an OCOR⁸, R⁸ being a C₁-C₆ alkyl, a C₁-C₆ haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; or a group of formula

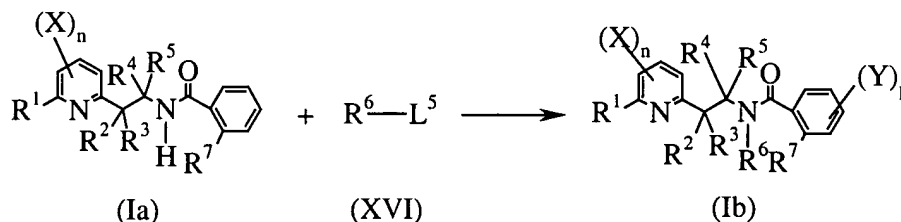


;

comprising a coupling reaction of an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIb) or one of its salt, with a carboxylic acid derivative of formula (IX) to provide a compound of general formula (Ia).

18. (Currently amended) A process according to ~~any of the claims 12 to 17~~ claim 12 which further comprises a step according to reaction scheme G :

Scheme G



in which : $-R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7, X, Y, n$ and p are as defined in claim 1;

- n is 1, 2 or 3;

- X is the same or different and is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro- λ^6 -sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl group, a C₁-C₈-alkyl, a C₂-C₈-alkenyl, a C₂-C₈-alkynyl, a C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a C₁-C₈-alkoxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₈-alkenyloxy, a C₂-C₈-halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₈-alkynyloxy, a C₃-C₈-halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₈-cycloalkyl, a C₃-C₈-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbamoyl, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylcarbamoyl, a (N-C₁-C₈-alkyl)oxycarbamoyl, a C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbamoyl, a (N-C₁-C₈-alkyl)-C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbamoyl, a C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonylamino, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphenyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphinyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a (C₁-C₆-alkoxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a (C₁-C₆-alkenyloxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a (C₁-C₆-alkynyloxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a (benzyloxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl or a phenylamino;

- R¹ is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro- λ^6 -sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl group, a C₁-C₈-alkyl, a C₂-C₈-alkenyl, a C₂-C₈-alkynyl, a C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a C₁-C₈-alkoxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₈-alkenyloxy, a C₂-C₈-halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₈-alkynyloxy, a C₃-C₈-halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₈-cycloalkyl, a C₃-C₈-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbamoyl, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylcarbamoyl, a N-C₁-C₈-alkyloxycarbamoyl, a C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbamoyl, a N-C₁-C₈-alkyl-C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbamoyl, a C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonylamino, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphenyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphinyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a (C₁-C₆-alkoxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a (C₁-C₆-alkenyloxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a (C₁-C₆-alkynyloxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a (benzyloxyimino)-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a phenylamino;

with the proviso that X and R¹ are not both a hydrogen atom;

- R² and R³ are the same or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₆-alkenyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfenyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfinyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyloxy or a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonylamino;

or R² and R³ may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;

- R⁴ and R⁵ are the same or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl or a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

or R⁴ and R⁵ may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;

- R⁶ is a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a formyl group, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy, a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₃-C₆-cycloalkyl, a C₃-C₆-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₆-alkenyl, a C₂-C₆-alkynyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-cyanoalkyl, a C₁-C₆-aminoalkyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylamino-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a di-C₁-C₆-alkylamino-C₁-C₆-alkyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-halogenalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₆-alkyloxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-benzyloxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-alkoxy-C₁-C₆-alkylcarbonyl, a C₁-C₆-alkylsulfonyl or a C₁-C₆-halogenoalkylsulfonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

- p is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

- Y is the same or different and is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ⁶-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C₁-C₈-alkyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₈-alkenyl, a C₂-C₈-alkynyl, a C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a C₁-C₈-alkoxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkoxy-C₂-C₈-alkenyl, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphenyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphinyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a C₁-C₈-alkylsulfonamide; and

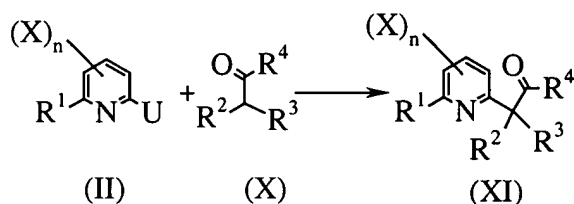
- R⁷ is a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ⁶-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C₁-C₈-alkyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₂-C₈-alkenyl, a C₂-C₈-alkynyl, a C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a di-C₁-C₈-alkylamino, a C₁-C₈-alkoxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkoxy-C₂-C₈-alkenyl, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulfanyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkoxycarbonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphenyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphinyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C₁-C₈-alkylsulphonyl, a C₁-C₈-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a C₁-C₈-alkylsulfonamide;

as well as its salts, N-oxydes, metallic and metalloidic complexes;

- L^5 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a 4-methyl phenylsulfonyloxy, a methylsulfonyloxy;
 comprising the reaction of a compound of general formula (Ia) with a compound of general formula (XVI) to provide a compound of general formula (Ib).

19. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a fungicidal compound of general formula (I) as defined in claim 1, which comprises
 - a first step according to reaction scheme H-1 :

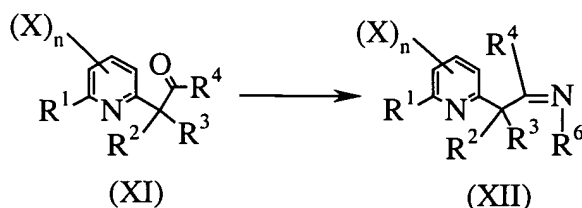
Scheme H-1



in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1 in the foregoing scheme and all of the schemes below, $R^1, R^2, R^3, R^7, X, Y, n$ and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl;
 - U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;
 comprising the arylation of a compound of general formula (X) by a pyridine derivative of general formula (II) to provide a compound of general formula (XI), in the presence of a base, at a temperature of from 0°C to 200°C ;
 - a second step according to reaction scheme H-2 :

Scheme H-2

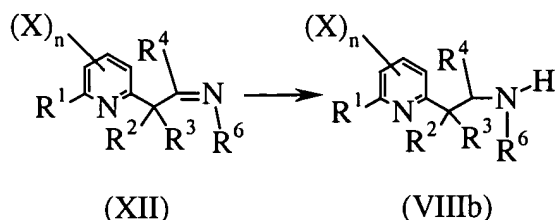


in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~
 - R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl;
 - R^6 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a C_1 - C_6 alkoxy or a C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl;

comprising the reaction of a compound of general formula (XI) with an amine of formula R^6-NH_2 to provide an imine derivative of general formula (XII);

- a third step according to scheme H-3 :

Scheme H-3



in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

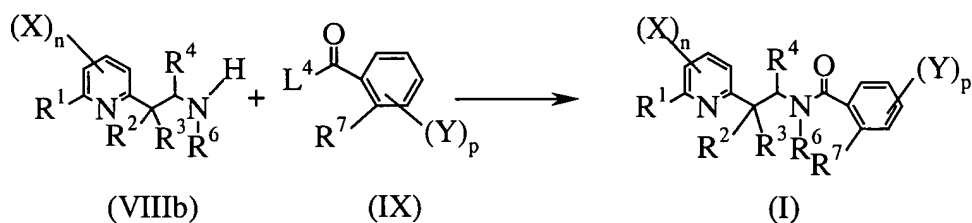
- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl;

- R^6 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a C_1 - C_6 alkoxy or a C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl;

comprising the reduction of an imine derivative of general formula (XII) by hydrogenation or by an hydride donor, in the same or a different pot to provide an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIb) or one of its salt;

- a fourth step according to reaction scheme H-4 :

Scheme H-4

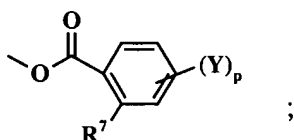


in which : ~~$R^1, R^2, R^3, R^7, X, Y, n$ and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl or a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl;

- R^6 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a C_1 - C_6 alkoxy or a C_3 - C_7 cycloalkyl;

- L^4 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, $-OCHO$, $-SCSN(Me)_2$, an OR^8 group, an $OCOR^8$, R^8 being a C_1 - C_6 alkyl, a C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; or a group of formula



comprising a coupling reaction of an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIb) or one of its salt, with a carboxylic acid derivative of formula (IX) to provide a compound of general formula (I).

20. (Original) Fungicidal composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 and an agriculturally acceptable support.

21. (Original) Method for preventively or curatively combating the phytopathogenic fungi of crops, characterised in that an effective and non-phytotoxic amount of a composition according to claim 20 is applied to the plant seeds or to the plant leaves and/or to the fruits of the plants or to the soil in which the plants are growing or in which it is desired to grow them.